

UIC Draft Permit Penneco Environmental Solutions PAS2D702BALL

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To: R3 UIC Mailbo R3 UIC Mailbo @epa.gov

Dear Mr. Hancharick:

As someone who grew up in Plum Borough and still owns property there, I am deeply concerned and opposed to the proposed second fracking waste injection well. As a former environmental attorney for the federal government, I understand the implications of wastewater in heavily populated communities, despite EPA's assurances that these wells are "safe." Further, the noise and air pollution is a serious issue for the area, both from a human health standpoint and a real property value standpoint. Allegheny County already has very poor air quality from western air flow. We don't need to exacerbate our air quality issues further with this type of activity.

There is both serious evidence of problems with fracking activities and wastewater (see, for example:

https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.waterboards.ca.gov%2Fwater%2Frights%2Fwater_issues%2Fprograms%2Fbay_delta%2Fcalifornia_waterfix%2Fexhibits%2Fdocs%2FSHR%2FPart2%2FSHR-2-111.pdf&data=05%7C01%7CR3_UIC_Mailbox%40epa.gov%7C5da789b17933484d018c08da8d0e790f%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637977390550330933%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7288qH%2FEicxWh%2BOuyzNVhmj3J28l0DeoWCgGEQj6mLg%3D&reserved=0 and

https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nrdc.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Ffracking-air-pollution-IB.pdf&data=05%7C01%7CR3_UIC_Mailbox%40epa.gov%7C5da789b17933484d018c08da8d0e790f%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637977390550330933%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=T4IKlvA%2FrcNtSf4CfBcEC45GV1PMbhpCkiBvXg1VFvA%3D&reserved=0), and

serious concerns with gaps of information on the long term health effects of these activities (see, for example: https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fserc.carleton.edu%2FNAAGTWorkshops%2Fhealth%2Fcase_studies%2Fhydrofracking_w.html&data=05%7C01%7CR3_UIC_Mailbox%40epa.gov%7C5da789b17933484d018c08da8d0e790f%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637977390550330933%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=F%2BsrOHbAA72myggQT%2Bs4jZKEi8HXm8gkLw%2BTn%2Bz8bhg%3D&reserved=0).

EPA's own data shows that there are genuine hazards to individual sites, which EPA sweeps under the rug by suggesting that overall the picture is rosy and fine. That won't help the residents of Plum when it happens.

Furthermore, it has been seen time and again that environmental justice issues such as race and poverty impact the decision of companies to locate operations. Plum is not a wealthy district within Allegheny County, and it does not have the resources to properly supervise or fight for appropriate regulatory oversight. It is unfair to attempt to saddle Plum with any injection wells, let alone multiple ones.

Simply put, these wastewater injection sites, and fracking activities in general, are seriously bad for everyone except those who make a profit on them. The rest of us are left to deal with the health

problems and degradation of our real property value that these companies leave behind. And taxpayers will eventually be saddled with the cost of clean up once these companies have extracted their profits. As a former federal CERCLA attorney, I know this story all too well.

I fully understand that the lobbying arm of oil and gas has firmly secured the PA legislature, but the Federal government, and EPA Region 3 should be above this. We need EPA to stop downplaying the dangers to our environment from the Fossil Fuel Industry. Our planet is literally imploding all around us, while our government is taking baby steps to fight those who, science has told us for decades if not a century, are responsible. The scientific evidence is irrefutable at this point. Climate catastrophe is happening at a faster rate than even experts predicted. And yet EPA wants to saddle Plum Borough with the harms. It's wrong and I oppose it.

Please consider this email my public comment.

Thank you,

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